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PAGE 01 KINGST 04585 201954Z
ACTION ARA-15
INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 EUR-12 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 SP-02
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 ISO-02 OC-06 CCO-00
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY DATE 25 JUN 1982
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☐
RELEASE DENIED☐
FA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

O 201905Z JUN 80
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3388
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
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E.O. 12065: NA
TAGS: PINT, JM
SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE TO ELECTIONS
REF: (A) KINGSTON 4220 (NOTAL, (B) STATE 136070 (NOTAL)
1. ELECTROAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MILLS TOLD US JUNE 20 THAT THE SECOND WEEK OF THE ENUMERATION (I.E., REGISTRATION) FOR THE UPCOMING ELECTIIN HAD NOT GONE AS WELL AS HOPED. THE VIOLENCE LEVEL HAD SERIOUSLY INTERFERED WITH THE PROCESS, AND ALSO A LARGE NUMBER OF ENUMERATORS HAVE HAD TO BE SACKED FOR BEING TOO BLATANTLY PARTISAN. THUS, THE ENUMERATION PHASE, HE SAID, WILL MOST LIKELY HAVE TO BE EXTENDED FOR ONE OR TWO WEEKS, PUTTING ITS END AT THE FIRST OR SECOND WEEK IN JULY. MILLS SAID THAT THE KEYPUNCH AND DATA PROCESSING PHASE WILL ALSO BE SLOWER THAN EXPECTED AND WILL TAKE ABOUT SEVEN WEEKS -- THE KEYPUNCH OPERATION HAS NOT YET STARTED.
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ADDING MILLS' LATEST ESTIMATES AND GUESSING AT THE UNKNOWN AMOUNT OF TIME BETWEEN FINAL PREPARATION OF VOTER LISTS AND THE ELECTION, WE NOW CALCULATE THAT THE EARLIEST FEASIBLE ELECTION DATE IS MID-OCTOBER (NOTE: MANLEY CNFIRMED THIS YESTERDAY. SEE REFTEL.)
2. CONCERNING THE PRINTING OF THE VOTING LISTS, MILLS SAID THAT HE HAD WRITTEN LETTERS TO THE FIRST THREE COMAPNIES ON THE LIST WE GAVE HIM (PARA 3, REFTEL B), AND WAS EAGERLY WAITING FOR REPLIES. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE IT IF THE STATE DEPARTMENT COULD CALL THE COMPANIES TO EXPEDITE REPLIES, AND, IF POSSIBLE, PASS ON THE INFORMATION IN THE REPLIES VIA STATE DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATIONS CHANNELS (POSTAL SERVICE TO JAMAICA IS UNRELIABLE). HE AGAIN EXPRESSED HIS DEEP APPRECIATION FOR THE HELP WE HAVE GIVEN THE ELECTORAL COMMITTEE.

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3. COMMENT. WE EXPECT THERE WILL BE MANY MORE CHANGES IN THE ENUMERATION TIMETABLE AS WELL AS IN OTHER VARIABLES IN THIS ELECTION PROCESS BETWEEN NOW AND THE TIME THE VOTERS ACTUALLY GO TO THE POLLS.

LAWRENCE

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